



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### STATE AWARDS \$747,000 IN TRAINING ACCELERATION GRANTS

INDIANAPOLIS (December 8, 2005) - The Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Indiana Economic Development Corporation have awarded \$747,896 in Training Acceleration Grants to six Indiana companies or consortia.

The Training Acceleration Grant program provides financial assistance to companies and organizations seeking to expand the skills of their existing workforce through training programs that result in industry-recognized credentials. This grant program is the state's primary job training program offered to Indiana businesses.

The program has four core objectives: promoting small businesses; fostering job retention and expansion; increasing personal income for Hoosier workers; and providing training to address skill gaps in the Hoosier workforce.

"The Training Acceleration Grant program is our primary weapon in our efforts to train and retrain Indiana's workforce," said Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development. "These investments help us develop a competitive advantage in human capital so that we can compete worldwide."

"Incentives such as the Training Acceleration Grant are important assets the state can use to assist in the expansion of Indiana Businesses at a time when economic growth and diversification are top priorities," said Patricia R. Miller, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

The names of the firms awarded the grants, location, and amount awarded:

<b>Employer</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Amount</b>
St. Joseph Hospital	Kokomo	\$70,570
ABC of Indiana – Northern	Indianapolis	\$239,209
ABC of Indiana – North Central	Indianapolis	\$186,832
ABC of Indiana – South Central	Indianapolis	\$208,987
Elkhart County Econ Dev Center*	Goshen	\$30,974
Precise Technology	West Lafayette	\$11,324

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve worker skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana's 26 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information,

assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service.

\*The Elkhart County Economic Development Center is a local economic development corporation acting as the grantee for Elkhart Brass, Goshen Stamping, Hayes-Limmerz, Provident Tool and Die, QMP, Inc, Square Deal Inc, and Universal Tooling Corp.